

Serial No. 10/799,679
Amdt. Dated January 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 1, 2004

Docket No. P-0667

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:
 - a dispenser housing mounted on a front surface of a refrigerator door;
 - a supply pipe ~~mounted~~ provided at an upper ~~surface~~ portion of the dispenser housing and ~~supplying~~ configured to supply water therethrough; and
 - a drain pan detachably disposed at a lower ~~surface~~ portion of the dispenser housing and ~~collecting~~ configured to collect water dropped from the supply pipe, ~~therein~~; and
 - wherein a locking unit ~~for locking the drain pan to the dispenser housing~~ is formed provided between the drain pan and the dispenser housing, ~~wherein the locking unit is configured to secure the drain pan to the dispenser housing when the locking unit is engaged, and to release the drain pan from the dispenser housing when the locking unit is disengaged.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The dispenser of claim 1, wherein ~~a~~ the dispenser housing further comprises an inserting part ~~on which the drain pan is inserted~~ is formed at a lower portion of the dispenser housing, ~~thereof~~ and the ~~configured to receive the drain pan~~, wherein a

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front surface of the drain pan and ~~the~~^a front surface of the refrigerator door ~~are disposed to~~ define a flat surface ~~in case that~~^{when} the drain pan is inserted on the inserting part.

3. (Currently Amended) The dispenser of claim 1, wherein the locking unit ~~includes~~
comprises:

a locking groove formed at a rear ~~surface portion~~ of the dispenser housing; and
a locking hook formed at a rear ~~surface portion~~ of the drain pan and ~~engaged~~ configured
to engage with the locking groove.

4. (Currently Amended) The dispenser of claim 3, wherein a through hole ~~is~~ formed
at a rear ~~surface portion~~ of the dispenser housing ~~is configured~~ to allow the locking hook to pass
therethrough, ~~wherein~~ a first support rib ~~is formed extended backwardly~~ extends back from an
upper portion of the through hole and ~~bent~~ bends downwardly, and ~~wherein~~ the locking groove
is formed at an end portion of the first support rib.

5. (Currently Amended) The dispenser of claim 4, wherein the locking groove has a
semi-circular curved form.

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6. (Currently Amended) The dispenser of claim 3, wherein the locking hook is protruded upwardly protrudes from the an end portion of the a second support rib extended which extends in a horizontal direction from the a rear surface portion of the drain pan.

7. (Currently Amended) The dispenser of claim 6, wherein the locking hook is formed as comprises a semi-circular curved protrusion so as corresponding to the locking groove and is configured to be inserted into engage the locking groove.

8. (New) The dispenser of claim 1, wherein the supply pipe is further configured to supply ice therethrough.

9. (New) The dispenser of claim 1, further comprising a switch configured to open the supply pipe when activated, and to close the supply pipe when deactivated.

10. (New) The dispenser of claim 2, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slidably inserted onto the inserting part.

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11. (New) The dispenser of claim 4, wherein the first support rib and the locking groove are configured to deform in response to a force applied by the locking hook.
12. (New) The dispenser of claim 11, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slidably inserted onto the inserting part and secured into place by the locking unit with a single, substantially horizontal motion.
13. (New) The dispenser of claim 11, wherein the drain pan is configured to be released by the locking unit and removed from the dispenser housing with a single, substantially horizontal motion.
14. (New) The dispenser of claim 5, wherein the locking groove has a substantially semi-circular form.
15. (New) The dispenser of claim 5, wherein the locking groove has a convex form.
16. (New) The dispenser of claim 7, wherein the locking hook has a substantially semi-circular form.

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17. (New) The dispenser of claim 7, wherein the locking hook has a concave form.

18. (New) A refrigerator comprising the dispenser of claim 1.

19. (New) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:

a housing configured to be mounted on an outer surface of the refrigerator;

a drain pan configured to be slidably installed on the housing and configured to collect fluids therein; and

a locking unit configured to secure the drain pan in place on the housing when the locking unit is engaged, and to release the drain pan from the housing when the locking unit is disengaged.

20. (New) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the locking unit comprises:

a first support rib which extends back from an upper portion of a through hole formed in the housing;

a second support rib which extends back from a rear portion of the drain pan and which is configured to pass through the through hole when the drain pan is slidably installed or removed;

a locking hook formed at an end portion of the second support rib; and

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25. (New) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slidably installed on a lower horizontal surface of the housing.
26. (New) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the supply pipe is further configured to supply ice therethrough.
27. (New) The dispenser of claim 19, further comprising a switch configured to open the supply pipe when activated, and to close the supply pipe when deactivated.
28. (New) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the drain pan is configured to be slidably inserted onto the housing and secured into place by the locking unit with a single, substantially horizontal motion.
29. (New) The dispenser of claim 19, wherein the drain pan is configured to be released by the locking unit and removed from the housing with a single, substantially horizontal motion.
30. (New) A refrigerator comprising the dispenser of claim 19.

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31. (New) A dispenser for a refrigerator, comprising:
- a dispenser housing mounted on a front surface of a refrigerator door;
 - a supply pipe mounted at an upper portion of the dispenser housing and supplying water therethrough;
 - a drain pan detachably disposed at a lower surface of the dispenser housing and collecting water therein; and
 - a locking unit for locking the drain pan to the dispenser housing provided between the drain pan and the dispenser housing, comprising:
 - a locking groove formed at a rear surface of the dispenser housing; and
 - a locking hook formed at a rear surface of a drain pan and configured to engage with the locking groove.